

foreign exchange reserves to help ease the financial crisis suffered by its neighbors, Taiwan has proven its commitment to the welfare and health of the international community.

Given this reality, Mr. Speaker, it is both unfortunate and unjust that Taiwan is still denied membership in the United Nations, the World Health Organization, the World Trade Organization, and other multilateral bodies that would benefit from the Taiwan's active involvement. Regrettably, many of Taiwan's humanitarian contributions have been shunned or rejected as a consequence of this political inequity.

In 1993, for example, the ROC's Department of Health pledged to donate \$200,000 to a WHO/UNICEF program in order to provide vaccines for children of Kazakhstan and four other Central Asian republics. However, this donation was rejected because the ROC is not a member of the UN or the WHO. Mr. Speaker, it is tragic when children suffer because political obstinacy was more important than human welfare.

Not only does Taiwan's exclusion for participation in international organizations harm other nations, it violates the fundamental international right that countries that are affected by multilateral cooperation agreements should have the right to participate in the crafting of these agreements. Taiwan, according to the UN itself, is one of the six largest high-sea fishing countries in the world, yet it was denied the opportunity to join in the negotiation and adoption of an important UN fish conservation agreement in 1995.

In a similar situation, Taiwan's offer to become a signatory to the Montreal Protocol on the Substances that Deplete the Ozone Layer was refused, resulting in the threat of international economic sanctions against Taiwan—despite the ROC's unilateral implementation of the provisions of the Protocol. Mr. Speaker, the diplomatic anachronism of Taiwan's absolute exclusion from efforts of international cooperation must come to an end.

Mr. Speaker, Taiwan's 88th year appears to hold great promise, as long-stalled talks with the People's Republic of China seem likely to continue in the near future. In addition, Taiwan's economy remains strong despite serious regional difficulties. The record of success of the Taiwanese people is unmistakably clear and strong.

On this important anniversary, Mr. Speaker, I wish the people of Taiwan a glorious National Day and I wish the government of Taiwan the voice that it deserves in the international community.

SHIRLEY FLEISCHMANN NAMED MICHIGAN PROFESSOR OF THE YEAR BY CARNEGIE FOUNDATION

HON. VERNON J. EHLERS

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 8, 1998

Mr. EHLERS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Shirley Fleischmann, an engineering professor at the Padnos School of Engineering at Grand Valley State University. As Vice-Chairman of the House Science Committee, I am extremely proud to announce that Shirley has been named by the Carnegie Foundation for the Advancement of Teaching as its 1998 Michigan Professor of the Year.

Dr. Fleischmann is the first engineering professor and the fourth woman in the state of Michigan to receive this award since it was introduced in 1985. She is also the first Grand Valley State University professor to receive this award that recognizes undergraduate instructors who excel as teachers and who influence the lives of their students. The award is based on the recipients demonstrated involvement with undergraduate students, their scholarly approach to teaching, and their service to their profession and the community in which they live. For professors the award is one of the highest honors they can receive.

Before beginning her teaching career at Grand Valley, Shirley was a professor of mechanical engineering at the United States Naval Academy from 1982–1989. She earned her Ph.D. in Mechanical Engineering from the University of Maryland. She also received M.S. degrees in Mechanical Engineering and Physics from Maryland and was awarded a B.S. in Physics as well. Shirley grew up in Holland, Michigan, where she graduated from Holland Christian High School. To this day she credits her high school teachers for giving her the tools and skills necessary to do her job so effectively.

Mr. Speaker, it is the effort and dedication of professors like Shirley Fleischmann that is so crucial to the future of science education. Professors such as Shirley can help the United States renew its interest in science and better prepare our leaders of tomorrow with the necessary tools and knowledge they need for careers in math, science, and engineering. Her excitement and willingness to go that extra mile in training future scientists and engineers is a shining example of why she was selected for this prestigious award. I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating Professor Shirley Fleischmann on this outstanding accomplishment.

INTRODUCTION OF ESOP REFORM LEGISLATION

HON. PHILIP M. CRANE

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 8, 1998

Mr. CRANE. Mr. Speaker, today I am introducing two bills to provide tax reform in order to encourage economic growth of employee-owned companies in my State of Illinois and around the country.

I have been a strong advocate of employee stock ownership plans (ESOP's). I also have the privilege of representing a significant number of employee-owners of the Nation's largest publicly-owned ESOP, United Airlines. After taking over the ownership of the company, the United employees effected a dramatic economic turnaround of the company's fortunes—making United Airlines a financial success story.

In the summer of 1997, Gerald Greenwald, Chairman and CEO of United Airlines, came to me with ideas to amend the tax rules to allow employees to better utilize their ESOP Investments. When the ESOP tax laws were written, they did not account for companies like United taking ESOP's to such a grand scale. So, as in so many cases it is time for the law to catch up to the realities of the marketplace.

I have been working on these proposals since then to prepare for an opportunity to include them in an appropriate tax vehicle. Such an opportunity has not yet presented itself. Therefore, I am introducing these proposals as stand-alone bills and to bring more attention to the need for updating the ESOP laws.

While ESOP's give the employees a stake in the company and provide a great opportunity to invest for retirement, the current tax rules restrict the ability of employees to use their investments for other important events in their life.

The first bill will expand the ability of employee owners to make qualified distributions from their ESOP's, without incurring a 10-percent penalty on early withdrawals. Similar to the expanded uses for individual retirement accounts Congress has passed, this proposal will allow ESOP distributions for first time home purchases or for college expenses. This will especially benefit middle-income level employees who find it more difficult to save the money to buy their own home or send their children to college.

The second proposal would address a conflict between 401(k) plans and ESOP's. Under current law, employer contributions to 401(k) retirement plans are limited when contributions are also being made to an ESOP. My bill will allow employers to contribute to their employees' 401(k) plans without taking into account their ESOP contributions.

I commend these bills to the attention of my colleagues and urge them to support the employee-owners at United and other ESOP's around the country by cosponsoring these measures.

REDOUBLING EFFORTS TO APPREHEND INDICTED WAR CRIMINALS IN THE FORMER YUGOSLAVIA

HON. CHRISTOPHER H. SMITH

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 8, 1998

Mr. SMITH of New Jersey. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 4660, authorizing the provision of rewards for information leading to the arrest and conviction of war criminals and those who have committed other serious violations of international humanitarian law in the former Yugoslavia.

As Co-Chairman of the Helsinki Commission, I have followed the tragic developments in the former Yugoslavia and advocated decisive action to stop the senseless slaughter, first in Bosnia, and most recently in Kosovo. But decisive action is not limited to military intervention alone. The tragic chapters of genocide and cold blooded murder in the Former Yugoslavia will not be closed until those responsible for such heinous criminal acts are brought to justice.

Developments in Bosnia underscore the fact that there is a price—a high price—to be paid for allowing indicted war criminals like Karadzic and Mladic to remain at large. The unfolding carnage in Kosovo is most certainly the handiwork of the "Butcher of Belgrade," Slobodan Milosevic. I applaud the recent passage of resolutions in the House and Senate calling for the investigation and indictment of Slobodan Milosevic as a war criminal. In fact, I introduced the measure in this House. We all